

PATENT
82493.0002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

TAKEUCHI, et al.

Serial No: 09/602,814

Filed: June 23, 2000

For: BALL LOADING APPARATUS AND
BALL LOADING METHOD

Art Unit: 1725

Examiner: KERNS, Kevin P.

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June 4, 2002

Signature

Date

AMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 4, 2002, the period for response to which ends June 4, 2002, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 6, line 28 – page 7, line 2:

Further, a mechanism which spouts air from under the balls 2 piled up also can rock the balls 2 in the same way as the vibrator 3. In the case adopting this mechanism, if the head 4 is not lowered in the group of the balls 2, it takes a long time to suck up the balls 2 and there can be suction holes 25 which can not suck up the balls 2, because a height where the balls skip is very low.

At page 9, lines 8-20.

It is most preferable that the energized force of the spring member 16, in a condition of equalizing a pressure of the cylinder 15 to zero, is designed to be a force